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6

GUARDING THE GLOBE™

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GUARDING THE GLOBE

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MUMBAI, INDIA. NOW.

AT LAST...

THIS WORLD IS MINE!

MUMBAI, INDIA. THEN.

THAT'S DEFINITELY SET, BUT I HAVE NO IDEA WHO THIS OTHER GUY IS.

DOESN'T MATTER WHO HE IS. WHAT MATTERS IS WHO **WE** ARE.

HOLD UP, SAMSON. EVERYONE REMEMBERS PARIS, REMEMBERS WHAT SET DID TO US THERE.

HE SNAPS HIS FINGERS, AND WE WAKE UP IN A SEA OF CORPSES, IF WE WAKE UP AT ALL.

OR MAYBE THAT HORNED GUY SUCKS THE LIFE FORCE OUT OF MONSTER GIRL. WHO KNOWS HOW DEEP THAT GOES OR WHERE IT COMES FROM?

THAT KIND OF ENERGY COULD TURN HIM INTO A WALKING NUCLEAR BOMB.

WE SIMPLY CAN'T PUT OURSELVES INTO PLAY LIKE THAT. WE'VE GOT TO BE SMARTER.

BRIT'S RIGHT. PUTTING OUR POWERS AT THEIR DISPOSAL WOULD SIMPLY BE ADDING FUEL TO A FIRE.

SO WE JUST SIT ON OUR HANDS? WHAT KIND OF OUTFIT IS THIS?

WELL, THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF FOLKS TO RESCUE.

AND IF WE COULD EVACUATE THE NEIGHBORHOOD WE MIGHT EVEN REMOVE THE SOURCE OF DEER-HEAD'S POWER.

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN? *THAT'S* OUR BATTLE CRY?

BRIT, WHAT DO WE DO ONCE WE CLEAR THE CITY? I MEAN, WHAT DO WE ULTIMATELY DO ABOUT THOSE TWO?

I LOOK LIKE I KNOW?

DAMN. THIS PLACE IS GOING TO GO ANY SECOND.

GO? IT ALREADY *WENT.*

MULTIPLE LIFE SIGNS ON THE GROUND FLOOR. THREADY.

POPPER?

PUSHED PAST HER LIMITS LONG AGO.

I SAW HER TELEPORT A GROUP OUT OF AN OVERTURNED BUS, BUT SHE ISN'T RESPONDING TO HER COM-LINK NOW. LIKELY UNCONSCIOUS.

OKAY, I'M GOING IN. SHAPESMITH, GIVE ME A LIFELINE.

STABILIZE THIS THING AS BEST YOU CAN.

HELLO?

OH, THANK GOODNESS YOU'VE COME.

ANYONE ELSE DOWN HERE?

MY LITTLE SISTERS. THE DOOR'S JAMMED, BUT I CAN HEAR THEM BEHIND IT.

I-- I THINK THEY'RE *HURT*.

YOU KNOW, YOU SPEAK PRETTY GOOD ENGLISH.

I WORK AT A CALL CENTER. PLEASE, SIR, MY *SISTERS*.

COMING.

SHAPESMITH, CAN YOU CUT ME A LITTLE SLACK?

SURE THING, BR--

SHEEOOK!

KKRRRMMMBBBLLL!

UFF!

ANYONE SEEN MY BROTHER?

I COULD SWEAR I JUST PUNCHED HIM THROUGH THIS NEIGHBORHOOD.

YOU GODDAMN *ANIMAL!*

KID THOR, WAIT!

FORGET THAT. THESE BASTARDS WILL KEEP FILLING UP GRAVES FASTER THAN WE CAN DIG THEM.

I'M GOING TO END THIS *NOW!*

THRUPP!

AH. YOU'RE ANOTHER ONE OF THESE SPECIAL HUMANS, LIKE THAT GHOST GIRL AT THE TRAIN STATION.

URKK!

YOU'RE A POWERFUL ONE, AS YOUR SPECIES GOES.

I WONDER WHAT YOUR SOUL TASTES LIKE.

NNNGGH!

MAGNIFICENT. LIKE DRINKING A THOUSAND LIVES AT ONCE.

IF THERE ARE MORE LIKE YOU TO FEAST ON, BRAVE ONE--

THIS PLANET WILL BE THE CROWN JEWEL OF MY EMPIRE.

CHUFF!

GGGRRR. RAFF! RAFF!

LE BRUSIER!

RAPP! RAPP!

I KNOW, LITTLE ONE, I KNOW. BUT I COULDN'T STAND TO SEE THAT HAPPEN TO YOU, TOO.

HE-- HE'S DEAD. HE JUST *DIED.*

ONE MINUTE HE WAS TALKING AND EVERYTHING, AND NOW HE'S JUST...

THRANNG!

OUTRUN, *MOVE!*

ARE YOU LIKE THE HAMMER BOY? DO YOU HAVE A DELICIOUS SOUL, TOO?

IF I HAD ONE, IT WOULD BE THOUSANDS OF MILES FROM HERE.

BUT I *DO* HAVE A BODY HANDY.

SHREEEOOOKK!

LET ME SHOW IT TO YOU.

DUDE! BRIT SAID NOT TO ENGAGE THEM DIRECTLY.

IN CASE YOU HAVEN'T NOTICED, THAT PLAN'S NOT GOING SO WELL.

PHOOM!

PHOOM!

IN THIS FORM I CAN'T BE HARMED BY EITHER OF THEM-- AT LEAST NOT PERM--

THRANG!

PATHETIC MACHINE!

BLANG!

WOBBLING INTO THE MIDDLE OF A WAR LIKE A TOY ROLLING AWAY FROM A CHILD.

FWOOM!

DID YOU THINK THIS SHELL COULD STAND UP TO MY POWER?

NOT REALLY. I MERELY WISHED TO STALL YOU UNTIL I COULD ARRIVE.

ARRIVE? YOUR GEARS ARE GRINDING, MACHINE. YOU'RE ALREADY HERE.

NOT ALL OF ME.

SHEEEBOOOMM!

LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO AGAINST THE WHOLE TOY BOX.

THOOM!

THOOM!

THOOM!

THROOM!

THRONNG!

PLOOM!

ARE YOU-- =UNNGH= ARE YOU OKAY?

I CAN'T HEAR THEM. I CAN'T HEAR MY SISTERS ANYMORE.

THAT SECTION OF FLOOR IS UNSTABLE, KID.

SAMAR. MY NAME IS SAMAR.

OKAY, SAMAR. LOOK, THIS WHOLE PLACE COULD-- COME DOWN ON US ANY MINUTE.

AND THAT SIDE OF THE ROOM-- IS LOOKING PRETTY SKETCHY.

I NEED TO STAY BY THE DOOR. I NEED TO STAY CLOSE TO MY SISTERS.

CAN'T YOU JUST *THROW* THE BUILDING OFF? AREN'T YOU A SUPER PERSON?

YEAH, BUT NOT THAT KIND. I'M-- I'M JUST A GUY WHO DOESN'T GET HURT.

I'M NO STRONGER-- THAN ANYONE ELSE.

AND RIGHT NOW I'M DOING MY BEST JUST TO KEEP THIS FREAKING BEAM-- WEDGED BETWEEN US AND A FEW THOUSAND POUNDS OF CONCRETE.

THE SAFEST PLACE FOR YOU IS RIGHT-- RIGHT BESIDE ME.

BUT-- BUT WE ARE *UNCHAPERONED.* IT IS IMPROPER FOR US TO BE SO...

SO *FAMILIAR.*

KID, THAT'S THE FARTHEST THING FROM MY MIND. BESIDES, MY HANDS ARE KIND OF BUSY AT THE MOMENT.

BUT--

IT'S ALRIGHT TO BE AFRAID, SAMAR. WE ALL SAY AND DO SILLY THINGS WHEN WE'RE AFRAID.

BUT MY FRIENDS ARE TRYING TO DIG US OUT AS WE SPEAK.

AND I PROMISE YOU, IF YOU LISTEN TO ME, AND STICK CLOSE...

I'LL GET YOU OUT OF HERE.

KHOOM!

OH!

UNNGH!

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SIR?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU SAID YOU WERE NO STRONGER THAN A NORMAL MAN.

THE LEAST I CAN DO IS HELP.

CALL-- CALL ME BRIT.

CERTAINLY, MR. BRIT.

K-KROOM!

HANG ON, SAMAR.

HANG.

ON.

CHUFF! CHUFF!

SKREEK!

THERE YOU ARE. I'VE GOT YOU.

ARE YOU INJURED? I DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS POSSIBLE.

IT'S NOT *MY* BLOOD, YOU SON OF A BITCH!

K-TANG!

AH, I SEE. NOT THE LAST BLOOD TO BE SPILLED TODAY.

BUT YOU CAN *CHANGE* THAT, BRIT. THERE'S A WAY TO END THIS CHAOS.

HELP ME.

ARE YOU *INSANE?*

I MERELY SEEK A RETURN TO THE STATUS QUO.

YOU MAY SET YOURSELF AGAINST ME AGAIN AT THE CONCLUSION OF OUR MOMENTARY ALLIANCE.

OR YOU CAN ALLOW THIS BRUTAL STALEMATE TO CONTINUE. THE SUPPLY OF READY-MADE CORPSES HERE SEEMS TO BE INEXHAUSTIBLE.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

MY BROTHER THOTH AND I BATTLE FOR PLANETS THE WAY YOUR SPECIES STRUGGLES FOR MATES OR ECONOMIC GAIN. IT IS *OUR WAY*.

WE ARE EVENLY MATCHED, AS THE HUSKS OF DEVASTATED WORLDS IN OUR WAKE WOULD PROVE.

THOTH, AS YOU HAVE SEEN, DRAWS POWER FROM THE ENERGIES OF LIVING BEINGS.

I'VE STUDIED HIM OVER COUNTLESS BATTLES. HE BUILDS A TERRIBLE KIND OF MOMENTUM WITH HIS POWER.

IT GROWS IN WAVES, LAPPING OUT OVER THE SURFACE OF THE PLANETS WE WAR OVER UNTIL IT EMPTIES THEM OF ALL LIFE.

BUT IF HE WERE TO SUDDENLY DOUBT THIS POWER, MOMENTARILY HESITATING TO ACCESS IT FOR *EVEN THE BRIEFEST INSTANT*, I COULD GAIN LEVERAGE OVER HIM.

YOUR POWER COULD CAUSE THAT MOMENT OF WEAKNESS.

I MERELY WISH TO *RULE* YOUR KIND, BRIT. THOTH WISHES TO CONSUME YOU AT HIS LEISURE.

WHY NOT JUST *TAKE* CONTROL OF ME? YOU'VE DONE IT BEFORE. ISN'T THAT WHAT HAPPENED IN PARIS?

A MOMENTARY LAPSE. I OPERATE UNDER A STRICT *CODE.*

THIS IS A CONTEST OF *WORTH.* I WILL TAKE THIS PLANET WITHOUT RESORTING TO SUCH BASE TACTICS.

IT WOULD UNDERMINE MY STATUS WITH THOSE WHO STAND IN JUDGMENT OF ME.

BUT MANIPULATING A PLANET'S INDIGENOUS RESOURCES AGAINST MY BROTHER, INCLUDING ITS NATIVES, WOULD BE SEEN AS HONORABLE AND ENTERPRISING.

IT'S ALL JUST A GAME. JUST A GOD-DAMNED *GAME.*

A GAME I CAN PLAY INDEFINITELY...

BUT YOUR PLANET, ALAS, *CANNOT.*

SO YOU *PLANNED* ALL THIS?

EVERYTHING WITH THE ORDER, PARIS, POSSESSING OUTRUN, ALL THIS DEATH AND DESTRUCTION... YOU DID IT ALL TO MANIPULATE ME INTO HELPING YOU?

IN A WAY.

DO ME A FAVOR.

NEXT TIME JUST *ASK.*

THAT WAS FUN, IF A BIT OF A DISTRACTION.

THERE'S NOT EVEN ANY LIFE ENERGY TO TAKE FROM YOU.

KZZZTT! KZZZTT!

NOR ANY FODDER NEARBY. I'LL JUST HAVE TO CAST MY NET WIDER ACROSS THIS FETID LITTLE PLANET.

YOU WON'T HAVE TO LOOK THAT FAR.

AH, ANOTHER ONE OF THE BRIGHTLY COLORED ONES. YOU ALL TASTE SO GOOD.

SHUT UP. *SHUT UP*, YOU OBSCENE PIECE OF--

THROKK!

YOU DON'T SEEM ALL THAT POWERFUL. NOT LIKE YOUR FRIEND THERE.

BUT I'LL TAKE WHAT I CAN GET.

GO AHEAD. DRINK *DEEP*.

YOU'RE BRAVE. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.

IT TICKLES.

HOW?

HOW ARE YOU STILL ALIVE?

MAYBE IT'S NOT ME.

NO.

NO, IT CAN'T BE.

MY POWER-- FAILING ME--

MORE LIKE YOUR BRAIN.

THOOM!

BRIT!

BRIT, ARE YOU OKAY?

YOU KNOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN ABOUT A CENTURY...

I'VE GOT TO SAY NO.

I GUESS YOUR LIFE FORCE WAS BOTTOMLESS ENOUGH TO FREAK EVEN HORN-HEAD OUT.

YOU DO LOOK A LITTLE OLDER, MAN.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE GUYS, ANYWAY?

I DON'T KNOW. SET DROPPED THE 4:10 FROM BANGALORE ON HIS BROTHER, AND WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARED THEY WERE GONE.

IT WAS ALL SOME KIND OF FAMILY FEUD? REALLY?

WHAT THE HELL JUST HAPPENED HERE?

CAN'T YOU TELL?

WE WON.

GUARDIANS OF THE GLOBE HEADQUARTERS, UTAH.

I TRIED.

I TRIED TO TELL HIM.

WHERE IS HE?

YOU DON'T WANT TO GO IN THERE, K.O.

GET OFF ME!

OH, GOD, KID... WHAT DID THEY DO TO YOU?

WHAT DID THEY DO?

THIS IS SO MESSED UP. IT DOESN'T EVEN LOOK LIKE HIM ANYMORE.

I MEAN, THERE WERE A LOT OF CORPSES LAYING AROUND. HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU GOT THE RIGHT MUMMY?

GRRRRR.

OKAY, OKAY. NO DISRESPECT.

THIS-- THIS BELONGS WITH YOU.

I COULDN'T STAND TO SEE ANYONE ELSE SWINGING THIS UGLY OLD THING AROUND.

GOOD-BYE, KID. GOOD--

GOOD-

VVVmmmmmmmmm!

KID?

VVVmmmmmmmmm!

FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

--CAN'T GUARANTEE THE THREAT IS OVER, BUT IT HAS ABATED FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

GNN

SON OF A BITCH. I REALLY DO LOOK OLDER.

I REALIZE THE CASUALTIES INDIA'S SUFFERED THIS DAY ARE UNIMAGINABLE, BUT BELIEVE ME WHEN I SAY, WITHOUT THE INTERVENTION OF THE GUARDIANS OF THE GLOBE, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH, MUCH--

NOT EXACTLY AGE-APPROPRIATE VIEWING FOR YOU, CHAMP.

KLIK

HEY, YOU'LL WAKE HIM.

I NEED THIS.

YOU OKAY?

NOT REALLY. I'VE BEEN AROUND SO LONG, SEEN SO MUCH, A LOT OF IT SO MESSED UP I COULD NEVER REPEAT IT.

BUT TODAY...

THE KIND OF STUFF THAT MAKES YOU WANT TO HANG IT ALL UP?

ACTUALLY, THE OPPOSITE.

TO SEE SO MANY PEOPLE GET EVERYTHING TAKEN FROM THEM IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE... I NEVER WANT THAT TO HAPPEN TO ME, OF COURSE. I COULDN'T IMAGINE LIFE WITHOUT YOU TWO.

BUT MORE THAN THAT, I NEVER WANT IT TO HAPPEN TO ANYONE AGAIN, ANYWHERE. NOT IF I CAN HELP IT.

THIS IS WHY I FIGHT, JESS. THIS RIGHT HERE.

I KNOW IT'S TOUGH TO UNDERSTAND. I KNOW I SCREWED UP OUR DATE NIGHT.

PLEASE. YOU THINK I'M GOING TO THROW THAT BACK AT YOU? ESPECIALLY NOW?

I KNEW WHAT THE DEAL WAS WHEN WE STARTED UP, BRIT. EVEN AT THE CLUB, I COULD TELL YOU WERE THE KIND OF PERSON WHO WOULDN'T LET THINGS JUST SLIDE--

REMEMBER THAT DEAL WITH KRYSTAL'S KIDS?

HOW YOU USED TO HELP THEM WITH THEIR HOMEWORK IN THE DRESSING ROOM?

HOW HER EX KEPT HASSLING HER UNTIL YOU MADE HIM SWALLOW A MOUTHFUL OF TEETH?

I KNEW RIGHT THEN, BEFORE YOU EVER SAID ONE WORD TO ME, THAT YOU WERE MY MAN.

IF YOU THINK I'M ASKING YOU TO CAGE THAT UP, TO STOP BEING THE MAN I FELL IN LOVE WITH, WELL...

BRIT?

ZZZZZZZ.

This is the last issue of GUARDING THE GLOBE. See, a strange thing happened while everyone was working on this book... INVINCIBLE #100. Yeah... that sucker. "The Death of Everyone."

The Guardians of the Globe's world was seeing some MAJOR changes and now needed more than just the Guardians to defend it. And that meant this book had to die...

But don't worry. It's being replaced by something a WHOLE lot bigger...

INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1

Phil Hester & Todd Nauck. Brand new stories. Endless possibilities. This April.

But I just got done printing "Writer of GUARDING THE GLOBE" on all my business cards. By hand.

Will Best Tiger ever take off his blind fold? What would happen if he did? :-o

Darren Hollander

Best Tiger wears the blindfold because it creates a bigger challenge. As for his eyes...

I've actually been thinking about this a lot. I've been tempted to do it from time to time for a nice joke, but that seems too cheap. Trust me, if we ever do it, it'll be a big deal.

Phil, Todd and company,

Alright I'll admit that while I don't find this new reader friendly, I am enjoying this more and more with each issue. While it isn't quite the Legion of Super-Heroes or the All-Star Squadron, yet, I am finding myself liking the characters we are being exposed to more and more. The more exposure the same characters get the more likeable they become and it's already a proven fact that Monsieurs Hester and Nauck are indeed trailblazers in the industry.

Japandroid's characterization this issue was superb! Granted she didn't get to say a whole lot being possessed by that alien and all that, it was more her actions that defined her character. Oh yes that and Todd's incredibly creepy way of keeping her from being just bipedal was absolutely delightful. Since we don't, and the group doesn't, seem to know much about her origins, it is entirely possible this isn't the last we've seen of her. I'll welcome her back at some point with open arms.

Me too!

Why does everyone assume she's not really dead? Oh, yeah. Comics!

So apparently Chupacabra, yes I would like a spotlight on him thank you, is an alcoholic and is entirely too sensitive to what has happened while he was there. Interesting. He's piqued my curiosity and he's pretty cool looking to boot. Sigh, another massive team book I've been sucked into by some great talent.

A Chupa spotlight issue is planned—so look out! He's got some demons to work out.
And the demons are anxious to work him out as well. This issue is coming sooner than later, so hang in there.

Outrun isn't who she appears to be. A possessed super-hero isn't anything new, but this Best Tiger with his blindfold and his talents, thanks to his heightened senses I'll presume, noticed what the others didn't or couldn't. All because of one tiny little detail and one that wouldn't occur to most people, the villain included. I have to admit this was a great surprise and a delightful reminder to those that think they know it all that they have no clue, yes I mean me.

What happens to the villain in question happens rather rapidly and we don't get to know much about her before a new and more powerful threat (?) appears. Could this new threat be a friend or foe to the gang? Well the enemy of my enemy and all that jazz, but somehow I think someone from a different Earth or perhaps planet coming to town is a threat, call me crazy, but these guys have proven me wrong already in just four issues.

I'm looking forward to learning more about the members here and their powers and personalities as well as how they joined up in the first place. Just remember that there are many new readers to this and sometimes a book as grandiose as this can be a tad overwhelming. Thankfully both Phil and Todd are as good as what they do as they are. I mean they are the reason I gave this a shot to begin with. Keep up the great work guys it really is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Steven Leitman
Cincinnati, Ohio

Thanks, Steven. I'm totally aware of the huge cast and sprawling back story, but as I wrote in an earlier lettercol, I'm eager to recreate that whole sense of discovery that comes from being thrown into the deep end of a comic book's history. I know it's risky, but I sincerely don't want to discount the GUARDING THE GLOBE and INVINCIBLE stories that came before. Hopefully just being exposed to the characters and histories will be enough to keep you invested.

That said, INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1 has a bit more of a "reset" feeling to it to get everyone up to speed. Hope you dig it.

Globe Trotters,

I wanted to let you guys know how good I think this comic book is, and that I think it's just about as good a start to a team book imaginable. Coming from the pages of INVINCIBLE, and following on from a strong mini-series I had high expectations, but these have

been more than met!

Not only does this series have the best superhero names ever – Best Tiger, Japandroid, Le Brusier, Kaboomerang – but it has some of the coolest new superhero characters I've seen in a while – Best Tiger, Japandroid, Le Bruisier, Kaboomerang.... Seriously though Best Tiger is probably my favorite of the lot: he's a badass, and I love his dialogue! Killing Japandroid though? I'm not too happy about that, but I'm pretty sure it's not the last we've seen of her. I think there's potential to see more of her in flashbacks, if not to get some answers to the questions posed by Robot in issue #4, chief among them: "Who made her, for what purpose..." Please tell me we'll at least get some answers? I have found her to be the most intriguing of the whole team.

It's good to see that the Astounding Wolf-Man has found a new home. When's he going to take on Battle Beast...? It's the brawl everyone wants to see, whether they know it, or not!

John Turner

Everyone knows it. EVERYONE.

Thanks, John. I'd love to do a Battle Beast tale, but I can never keep track of who's alive or dead in this universe. Sean, look into it!

He's TOTALLY alive.

Speaking of, how do you KNOW Japandroid isn't totally, really, irrevocably dead? Oh, yeah. Comics.

As for you Best Tiger lovers, your wish is about to come true... in INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE!

Dear Misters Hester, Nauck, Rauch, Wooton, Mackiewicz and Kirkman,

First off, let's start with the obligatory fan ravings. HOLY CRAP THIS BOOK IS AWESOME!!! Emhem, okay, got that out of my system. This is my first ever letter to a comic book and I've got a bunch to say, so let's get down to it. I started reading comics seven or eight years ago when I saw some WALKING DEAD trades my buddy had. I proceeded to eagerly read the entire story (up to that point) in a few days. It made me start thinking about how much I used to love my friend's comics when I was a kid. (I could never afford them as a child.) I decided to look for something else Kirkman had written and start there. I found INVINCIBLE. As soon as Omni-Man murdered the Guardians, I knew I was hooked on INVINCIBLE and comics in general for life. (So thanks for that, Kirkman. Take pride in knowing your writing and Ryan Ottley's art are THE sole reason I'm now a comic book fanatic.) It's gotten pretty bad. I have comic books coming out the wazoo. I spend all my free time reading any and all comics I can get my hands on. About 30 or 40 issues into INVINCIBLE, I remember I started thinking that the Guardians of the Globe should have their own comic book. I'll never forget when I read the announcement for the first mini. I was super excited and it did not disappoint. Now that it's back in an ongoing I couldn't be happier. I get two doses of the Invincible U a month. I hope someday we get 50 a month. The superhero universe that Kirkman and his buddies have created is so fresh, original, and always leaves me wanting more. The new creative team on this book is doing him proud, so keep up the good work. Onto the questions...

1. Mr. Hester, will you please have Duncan make a cameo? Or join the team, that would be even better.

Well, the book is/will be called INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE, not IMAGE UNIVERSE. The cast is already huge and we're trying to keep things limited to the Kirkman-verse. It would be cool, but if it EVER happened, it would be way down the line.

2. On the topic of Duncan, are you glad he wound up in his own book? I LOVE Firebreather, but Duncan in the Young Avengers would have been pretty freakin' sweet.

Thanks so much. Andy Kuhn is working on the book as his time allows, so as soon as he's done we'll be back with more. I've got years and years worth of stories to tell about the kid, and it kills me that we haven't been able to keep up. Thanks for asking.

3. When's Tech Jacket gonna show up?

I'll let Phil say it...

INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1!

4. Is the Wolf Man part of the team now, or is he still with his Wolf Corp.?

He's still with the Wolf Corp, but don't be surprised to see him pop back up.

INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1!

5. Will the Guardians be seeing any other Image super groups, like the Noble family or Youngblood? (Shaft vs. Best Tiger... please???)

No plans yet...but you make a CONVINCING argument.

Sean is saying you'd have to convince not him, me, or Todd, but Robert.

6. Not really a question, but "Not Good Tiger... Best Tiger." BEST. DIALOGUE. EVER. That line inspired me to write this entire letter.

Sometimes you write a bit of dialogue that makes your nipples hard. THIS WAS THAT TIME.

7. Are the Guardians going to stick to Earth or will we be seeing them get more cosmic? A trip to Talescria would be sweet.

I'm always cooking up space adventures, but there's a lot of housekeeping on Earth that needs taking care of first. Plus, some space-douches could attack any time to add some cosmic goodness. Watch the skies. The skies in the comic, I mean.

8. When are Immortal and Dupi-Kate finally gonna come back? Immortal super heroes can't stay retired forever.

Check out INVINCIBLE #100 for more on that front.

And INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1!

9. Where's Brit's sister been?

I have a big Brit family story line I'm trying to talk Robert into. Hopefully his media empire distracts him long enough to forget he rejected the idea earlier and I'll be able to sneak it in.

That's why I'M here, writer boy.

On one final note, Donald Ferguson is the coolest character on the block. He should have his own book. I wish I could turn my entire body into anything...

Have a grateful day,
Adam Palmer

Thanks, Adam!

We'll be back in April for INVINCIBLE UNIVERSE #1. The Guardians of the Globe will be there. I hope you will, too.

-Sean Mackiewicz

The Guardians and friends! Also enemies. See you soon!

-Phil Hester

Question of the Month

"WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE COMIC BOOK LOVE STORY?"

"12 REASONS WHY I LOVE HER by JAMIE S. RICH and JOELLE JONES. This is one of the books I list when people ask me what few books would I hand to people who do not read comics. Not only is the story heart-felt, but also the art content and the layout is pleasing to the eye. It reaches beyond sequential art and lightly steps into poetry."
JIMMIE ROBINSON
FIVE WEAPONS, BOMB QUEEN

"TRUE STORY, SWEAR TO GOD: CHANCES ARE... by TOM BELAND. I was really moved and impressed with the sincerity of the storytelling and the delightful clean line artwork."
MICHEL GAGNÉ
ZED: A COSMIC TALE, SAGA OF REX

"Horatio Hellpop and Sundra Peale in NEXUS by MIKE BARON and STEVE RUDE. It's like a Norman Rockwell romance... IN SPACE!"
MITCH GERADS
THE ACTIVITY

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THE THIRD DEGREE
ANDY DIGGLE

In his decade as a professional comics writer, ANDY DIGGLE has written for DC, Marvel, and Dark Horse, as well as editing the iconic British comics anthology *2000 AD*. His Vertigo graphic novel *The Losers* was adapted into a feature film in 2010. Currently, he is writing *Doctor Who* for IDW. *SNAPSHOT*, first published in serial for in *Judge Dredd Magazine*, is his first creator-owned work with longtime collaborator Jock.

What are you working on right now?
Today I'm plotting out the opening issues of my *Action Comics* run and my new Dynamite crime series.

What's the best part of your job?
Independence.

What's the worst part of your job?
Zero downtime. Lawrence Kasdan nailed it when he said, *"Being a writer is like having homework every night for the rest of your life."*

How did you first discover comics?
I can't remember *not* reading comics. I have two older brothers, so comics were always in the house. The first things I read were *The Beano*, *Asterix* and *Commando Picture Library*. Then I discovered *2000AD* at age 10, and everything changed.

If you weren't working in comics, what would you be doing?
Some other kind of storytelling. Making films or writing novels, probably.

What's the best thing a fan has ever said to you?
"The comic was better."

Who is the biggest influence on your work?
John Wagner.

What is the single work of which you're most proud?
The Losers.

Own up to one of your guilty pleasures.
Cigarettes.

What was the last comic book you bought?
CBLDF Liberty Annual and the *Action Comics Annual*, this week.

If you could be someone else for a day, who would it be?
Forgive the cliché, but I'd be Neil Armstrong. To stand on the Moon and look back at the Earth, where every single person has ever lived and died? How easily we forget what an astonishing achievement that was. And how little we seem to have learned from it as a society.

What are three of the most important things in life to you?
My family, my independence, and doing what I love. Everything else is mere logistics.

What's the strangest thing you have in your house?
My kids.

What makes you laugh?
My kids.

What is one of your favorite places?
Tholt-y-Will Glen, on the Isle of Man.

What music are you listening to these days?
Whatever my wife is listening to.

What is your favorite film of all time?
Impossible to choose between *Jaws*, *Alien* or *Raiders of the Lost Ark*.

Who is your best friend?
I haven't murdered Jock yet.

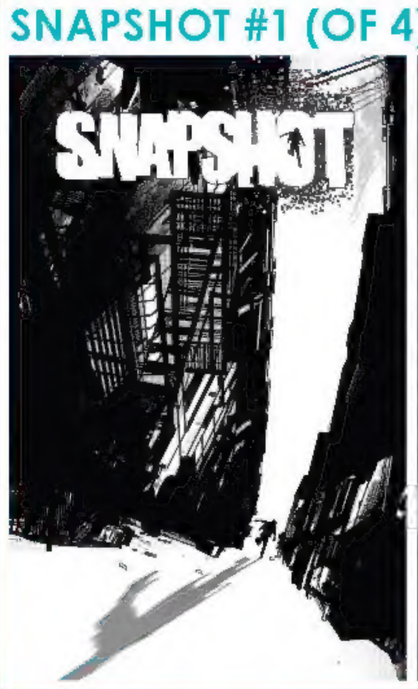
What is the best advice you've ever received?
To switch off your inner critic while you get the first draft down. Perfectionism kills spontaneity. You fix it in the rewrite.

When was the last time you were truly frightened?
Last time I looked in the mirror.

Who is someone you really admire?
Anyone who devotes their life to the betterment of others. Nurses, teachers, child protection workers. Thankless jobs with lousy pay. They're the unsung heroes of our society.

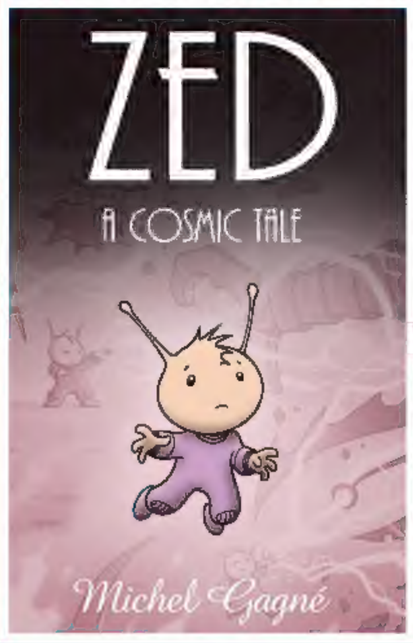
What would you like to see happen in comics in the next 12 months?
Fewer capes, more capers.

SNAPSHOT #1 (OF 4)



Jake Dobson is your typical nerd; works at the Near-Mint Rhino comic-book store in San Francisco. But when he finds a lost cell phone, he's horrified to discover it's full of snapshots of a murder victim. Suddenly he finds himself hunted by a vengeful hitman who wants his phone back... and Jake in a body bag! And then things start to get "really" complicated... Don't miss the first ever creator-owned thriller from the team behind THE LOSERS and GREEN ARROW: YEAR ONE!

ZED: A COSMIC TALE



When a cute little alien named ZED demonstrates his invention to the Hierarchy of the Galaxy, something goes wrong – terribly wrong! Before long, ZED's universe is thrown into complete turmoil and our little hero must face nearly insurmountable odds trying to survive and save the very fate of his home world. Imbued with a dark edge, peppered with pure silliness, and wrapped up in a childlike sense of wonder, ZED's adventures will keep readers tickled and captivated from start to finish.

FIVE WEAPONS #1 (OF 5)

13-year-old Tyler finds himself in a specialized school where assassins send their kids for education and training in one of the five deadly weapons. Tyler doesn't have a weapon or any fighting skills, but he still plans to graduate by beating every weapon master in the school because he has a powerful ability that nobody can match: his razor-sharp mind! JIMMIE ROBINSON twists the insanity of BOMB QUEEN in a fun new series that will keep you guessing to the end.

UNCANNY SKULLKICKERS #1

The UNCANNY SKULLKICKERS: Two hard-headed mercenaries kill monsters and cause havoc in their search for money, fame and adventure! A bold new direction! A perfect jumping-on point! A newly added adjective! Our nineteenth issue, but also a new issue №1! It's all here, people! Don't make us use more exclamation marks!!